

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE: Two Public Hearings to Seek Input on the Evaluation of Vermont's Education Finance System Draft Report.

The legislative consultants, Lawrence O. Picus and Associates, continue their evaluation of Vermont's education system. They will be holding the third of three sets of public hearings to seek input on Vermont's Education Finance System.

Two public hearings are scheduled on Monday, January 9, 2012. The purpose of these hearings is to seek feedback from education stakeholders and the general public on the working draft of the study findings as they finalize their work. Lawrence O. Picus and Associates will use the information from these public hearing sessions to finalize their report before it is submitted to the Legislature on January 18, 2012.

Individuals testifying at the hearings are asked to address the working draft report or its executive summary available online at www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/education_RFP_2011.aspx.

The first hearing will take place from 3:30 to 4:45 PM through the School Based Learning Network (LNV) to provide the state's education community an opportunity to offer input on the draft report. Site locations include: Twinfield, BFA Fairfax, Dothan Brook School, BFA St. Albans, U32 High School, Danville, Mill River High School, Enosburg Falls High School, Arlington High School, Randolph High School. For up-to-date site detail, see:

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/JFO/education_RFP_2011.aspx.

The general public is invited to testify at the second hearing from 5:00 to 6:30 PM to be held at the 14 Vermont Interactive Television (VIT) sites, including: Bennington, Brattleboro, Castleton, Johnson, Lyndonville, Middlebury, Montpelier, Newport, Randolph Center, Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, White River Junction, and Williston. The Waterbury site is NO longer available due to

flood damage. Site information, including directions may be found at: <http://www.vitlink.org/>

Lawrence O. Picus and Associates will be represented by Larry Picus and Allan Odden. They will attend both hearings and will be available to answer questions about the draft report, as appropriate, during the times outlined above.